

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please **AMEND** claim 1 as shown below.

This claim list replaces all prior claim lists in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A display device comprising:  
at least one picture element having an optical switch having first and second electrodes;  
at least one first fluid and a second fluid immiscible with each other above a first support plate, the second fluid being electro-conductive or polar; and  
a driver for moving the first fluid or breaking it up into small droplets by applying voltages to the first and second electrodes of the optical switch, the voltages are associated with a plurality of electro-optical states of the picture element in a range between and including a first extreme state and a second extreme state,  
wherein during selection of the at least one picture element, the driver provides variable voltages to the picture element prior to applying a fixed voltage associated with an electro-optical state of the picture element that corresponds to a desired image grayscale to be set, the provided variable voltages having a mean voltage substantially equal to the fixed voltage.
  
2. (Previously Presented) The display device according to claim 1, wherein the first support plate is transparent, the display device comprising a second support plate and the first and second fluids being within a space between the first support plate and the second support plate.

3. (Previously Presented) The display device according to claim 1, wherein the variable voltages comprise a plurality of alternating voltages.

4. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 3, wherein the variable voltages comprise a DC part and an AC part, the maximum and minimum voltages of the alternating voltages having a root mean square average value substantially equal to the fixed voltage associated with an electro-optical state of the picture element that corresponds to the desired image grayscale.

5. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 1, comprising different time periods for parts of the variable voltage curves having voltage values above the root mean square average value and parts of the variable voltage curves having voltage values below the root mean square average value.

6. (Withdrawn) A display device according to claim 1 said driving means providing preceding voltages (35) to a picture element prior to said voltages associated with the electro-optical states.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 6, wherein the preceding voltages comprise a set of alternating voltages, each set having an average value substantially equal to the fixed voltage associated with the electro-optical states of the picture element.

9. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 1, wherein driving at least one picture element, the amplitude of the preceding voltages decreases.

10. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 7, wherein driving at least one picture element, the frequency of the preceding voltages increases.

11. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 7, wherein the preceding voltages have different values for different parts of the display.

12. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 7, wherein the preceding voltages have different polarities at a given time for different parts of the display.

13. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 6, wherein the preceding voltages comprise a voltage to the picture element bringing the picture element into one of the extreme states.

14. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 1, the driving means providing after at least one selection period of a picture element, driving voltages of opposite polarity to the picture element.

15. -17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The display device according to claim 1, wherein the variable voltage includes one of the first and second extreme states.

19-20. (Canceled)

21. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 1, wherein the variable voltages have an amplitude at a beginning of the variable voltages and smaller amplitude at an end of the variable voltages prior to applying the fixed voltage.

22. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 1, wherein the variable voltages have decreasing pulse time periods prior to applying the fixed voltage.

23. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 1, wherein the variable voltages are applied with different polarity to different parts of the display device.

24. (Withdrawn) The display device according to claim 1, the driving means providing prior to selection of a picture element, a voltage to the picture element bringing the picture element into one of the extreme states.